



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

DOUGLAS KRESS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH

April 15, 2021
Open Conference / Virtual Meeting

Present:

Douglas Kress, Director
Brian Green, MD (Chair)
Paula Machado, Board Member
Robert Ciccio, Board Member
Kathy Teixeira, Recording Secretary

Guests: Five (5) Attendees

Meeting Called to Order:

On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was called to order at 6:07pm. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

Approval of Minutes: The January 21 and February 18, 2021 minutes were approved. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

Variance Request: Tufts University Dining Services is requested a variance for ROP (reduced oxygen packaging of prepared, cook and chill food produced at Tufts central kitchens. The HACCP plan were reviewed and approved by Maureen Lee. Dr. Green made a motion to grant Tufts University Dining Services a variance. It was seconded by Ms. Machado. All in Favor – Approved.

Covid19 Updates: We currently have 3,872 cases tested positive, and there are 150 active cases and 84 fatalities. 18,000 individuals are fully vaccinated and 17,000 are partially vaccinated. Improve access to the immigrant population is on-going and work in progress with help of Immigrant community and partnerships. The City of Somerville applied with the state to be a regional location for distribution of vaccines, partnering with Medford, Malden, Everett, Winthrop, Arlington, Cambridge Revere and Chelsea. The main vaccination sites would be CHA site on Somerville Avenue next to Target and Tufts University. The city was approach by the state to do a pilot program where residents use their smartphones. You go to settings click on exposure notifications, click on United States, then Massachusetts. If you phone pings and you gets a text saying you were exposed and further instructions are provided to seek medical help, for testing, quarantining, etc. Currently it is not state wide.

HHS Updates: Fats, Oils, and Greases (FOG) will have a discussion t and voted on at our next meeting. We have an opening for a Public Health Nurse position the job posting should be on the city's website shortly. FY22 Budget – the school nurses will be transiting to the School Department and will be under the School's jurisdiction.

Mr. Mackey as requested a special meeting with the Board of Health, for businesses to voice their concerns why the city is two (2) months behind the state. He also stated why are orders related to businesses are not on the agenda so businesses can join a meeting to discuss their concerns. Dr. Green said he would take Mr. Mackey's request for a special meeting with the businesses under advisement.

Next meeting – Virtual

May 20, 2021 @ 6pm

Adjournment:

On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

List of Documents:

Notice/Agenda

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Henkle-Teixeira
Board of Health Secretary
April 23, 2021